

Overview

The lesson is designed to teach students about the functions of state government. The seat belt law is presented as a model. Students will read one *Read Kansas* card and complete a graphic organizer to locate main ideas and supporting details. The lesson is designed to take one class period.

Standards

Government:

Benchmark 5, Indicator 1 The student describes the function of state governments (e.g., to establish law for the state, provide public service, provide public safety).

Reading:

Benchmark 4, Indicator 10 The student identifies the topic, main idea(s), and supporting details in appropriate-level texts.

Objectives

Content:

- The student will explain why the seat belt law was created.
- The student will describe how the government provides public service (education) and public safety (enforcement).

Skills:

- The student will be able to locate the topic, main ideas, and supporting ideas.

Essential Questions

- How does state government serve the people?
- How do laws provide for public safety?



Activities

This activity uses the following *Read Kansas* card:

- **State Government: Working to Keep You Safe**

Day 1:

1. Explain that this lesson is about state government. One of the main purposes of state government is to provide for the safety of all Kansans.
 - One way it provides for our safety is by establishing or creating laws. All Kansans must obey these laws. An example of a law is speed limits on highways.
 - Ask your students if they know of any other state laws that provide for their safety (e.g., smoking bans, gun laws, clean water laws, vaccinations).
2. In this lesson, students will learn about the role of government through the study of seat belt laws.
3. Distribute the **State Government: Working to Keep You Safe** *Read Kansas* card.
4. As a class discuss the title. Have they heard the phrase “Click It or Ticket?” What does it mean? What do they think the topic will be for this lesson?
5. Read the three subtitles. What do they think are the three main ideas in this lesson?
6. Have the students read the *Read Kansas* card.
7. Distribute the **State Government: Working to Keep You Safe** graphic organizer. As a class, complete the graphic organizer.

Extended Activities:

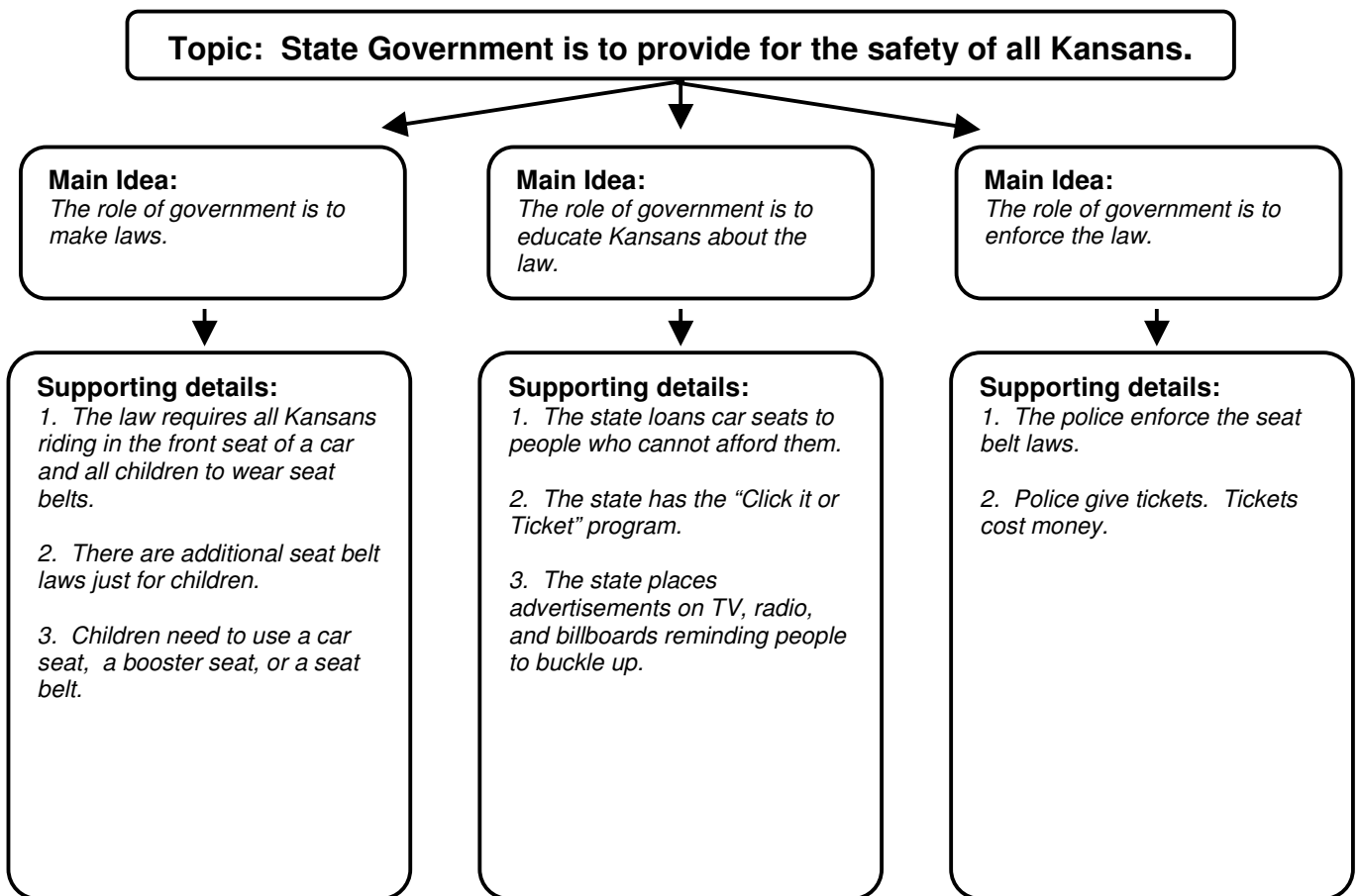
1. Create a poster about seat belt safety.
2. Create a bumper sticker about seat belt safety.
3. Interview someone about their opinion on wearing seat belts.
4. Interview someone about what it was like before there were seat belt laws.

Assessment

1. Evaluate how the students complete the **State Government: Working to Keep You Safe** graphic organizer.

For the Teacher

Suggested answers for the graphic organizer:



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Resources for this lesson are from:

- Kansas Highway Patrol Media Production Department

Name: _____

State Government: Working to Keep You Safe

Topic: State Government is to provide for the safety of all Kansans.

Main Idea:



Supporting details:

Main Idea:



Supporting details:

Main Idea:



Supporting details: